

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A Glycerol kinase which has high resistance against preservative.
2. (Original) The glycerol kinase according to claim 1, wherein the resistance against preservative expressed as a remaining activity ratio is 70% or more when the glycerol kinase coexists with the preservative at 25°C for one week.
3. (Original) The glycerol kinase according to claim 1 or 2, in which the preservative is N-methylisothiazolone and/or a derivative thereof.
4. (Original) The glycerol kinase according to claim 1, which is a protein of (a) or (b) below:
  - (a) a protein consisting of an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:1 in the Sequence Listing; or
  - (b) a protein comprising an amino acid sequence of the amino acid sequence (a) in which one or several amino acids are deleted, substituted or added and having glycerol kinase activity.

5. (Original) A gene encoding a glycerol kinase which is a protein consisting of an amino acid represented by SEQ ID NO:1 in the Sequence Listing.
6. (Original) A gene encoding glycerol kinase consisting of DNA of (c) or (d) below:
  - (c) a DNA consisting of a nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:2 in the Sequence Listing; or
  - (d) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence of the nucleotide sequence (c) wherein one or several nucleotides are added, deleted or substituted and encoding a protein having glycerol kinase activity.
7. (Currently amended) A recombinant vector comprising a gene encoding the glycerol kinase according to any one of claims 1 or 2 ~~1, 2 or 3~~.
8. (Original) A transformant comprising a host cell transformed with the recombinant vector according to claim 7.
9. (Original) A method for preparing a glycerol kinase, which comprises culturing the transformant according to claim 8 to produce a glycerol kinase, and collecting the glycerol kinase.
10. (New) A recombinant vector comprising a gene encoding the glycerol kinase according to claim 3.

11. (New) A transformant comprising a host cell transformed with the recombinant vector according to claim 10.

12. (New) A method for preparing a glycerol kinase, which comprises culturing the transformant according to claim 11 to produce a glycerol kinase, and collecting the glycerol kinase.